Aspull
Urban District Council.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ending 31st December, 1926.

R. PLATT, LTD., WIGAN.

Council Offices, Aspull,

Haigh, near Wigan,

May, 1927.

To the Chairman and Members

of the ASPULL Urban District Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to present you with my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Township for the year ending December 31st, 1926.

The Ministry of Health says that the Annual Report for 1926 should be an Ordinary Report, i.e., of a simple character.

In view of the fact that the appended tables are so exhaustive my preliminary remarks will be few.

Taking the year as a whole it may be looked upon as being about the average of most of the preceding years. The number of infectious cases reported will be found to be less.

Scarlet Fever 17 as compared with 29 in 1925.

Diphtheria 4 as compared with 16.

The general death-rate of 13.9 compares favourably with 17.2 of 1925, so that generally speaking the Health of the Township may be considered to have been good. Chicken-pox was prevalent during the latter part of the year; fortunately no case of Small-pox was reported.

Two special reports were submitted to you concerning property in the New Springs District. Legal action was taken, resulting in a conviction in each case. The defective property has since been placed in good repair and is now tenanted.

The conversion of privy middens to water carriage is steadily going on. Fifty-nine new water closets have been completed. The progress may be considered slow, but when the scarcity of money and the depressed times are taken into consideration we may congratulate ourselves on the progress made.

Frequent and periodical inspections with the Sanitary Officer have been made over the entire township, particularly with attention to Farm Buildings and Dairies. A notable improvement has been observed in most instances, and there is an evident desire on the part of farmers and vendors of milk to adopt modern methods in the cleaner production of milk. The exceptions form a small minority, and will have to be dealt with later by your Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. COOKE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Office, Aspull,

March, 1927.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban Sanitary Authority of Aspull.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my Annual Report in connection with my duties as Sanitary Inspector for the year 1926.

Owing to the adverse industrial conditions which existed in this, a colliery district, during the greater portion of the year under review, the results as shown in this report are rather disappointing. In particular you will note that no house to house inspections under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, have been carried out, the reason for this being that in the majority of cases owners of property were not receiving any rent or rates, and consequently were not in a position to carry out the demands which we should necessarily have made upon them. It is my intention to more than make up this leeway during the coming year.

Taking all things into consideration I think that the work of conversion of privy middens to the water carriage system, and the provision of additional water closets has been fairly satisfactory, but renewed and persistent efforts are urgently needed with respect to this very important work. I think that it is very desirable on the grounds of health, cleanliness, and common decency, that each house should be provided with a separate closet, and it is my intention with your sanction, to commence

to deal with cases where there are two houses using one closet, special attention being paid to those cases where the privy midden empties into a common yard, and on to an unpaved or poorly paved yard surface.

It has been necessary, in two instances, to take legal proceedings, and in both cases we were successful in obtaining convictions.

Conversions have been carried out at the following properties (from privy middens to water closets):—

Nos. 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514 and 516, Bolton Road.—Three privy middens, 5 closets to 8 W.C.'s.

Nos. 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83 and 85, Longfield Street.—Two privy middens, 6 closets and 1 pail closet to 12 W.C.'s.

Nos. 235, 237 and 239, Withington Lane.—Two privy middens, 3 closets to 3 W.C.'s.

Nos. 495 and 497, Bolton Road.—One privy midden, 2 closets to 2 W.C.'s.

Nos. 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, Longfield Street, and No. 12, Cale Lane.—Two privy middens, 6 closets to 12 W.C.'s.

Nos. 25, 27, 29, and 31, Wigan Road.—Two privy middens, 4 closets to 4 W.C.'s.

Nos. 19, 21, and 23, Wigan Road, and Nos. 1, 3, and 5, Cale Lane.—One privy midden, 4 closets to 6 W.C.'s.

Nos. 606, 608, and 610, Bolton Road, and No. 1, Worral's Yard, —One privy midden, 2 closets to 4 W.C.'s.

Nos. 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, and 92, Haigh Road.—Four privy middens, 6 closets to 6 W.C.'s.

Nos. 1 and 3, Wigan Road.—Two W.C.'s provided.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I beg to tender my sincere thanks to you, also the Medical Officer of Health and other Officials of the Council, for the courteous help and consideration extended to me at all times.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES OCCLESHAW,

Sanitary Inspector.

The following is a summary of the visits paid to dwelling-houses, etc., during the year:—

Total number of dwelling-houses and premises inspected *re* nuisances and complaints	242
Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
Notices issued *re* defects and nuisances (Informal)	171
Notices issued *re* defects and nuisances (Formal)	54
Number of premises at which nuisances were abated	197
Number of premises at which nuisances remained unabated at end of year (31st December, 1926)	45

DEFECTS DEALT WITH.

Houses with defective roofs	57
Houses with damp and defective walls	57
Houses requiring eave and downspouts	9
Houses with defective eave and downspouts	33
Houses with defective windows	82
Houses with defective doors and door frames	10
Houses with defective ceilings	12
Houses with defective floors	34
Houses with damp floors	20
Houses with damp and perished plaster on walls, etc.	23
Houses requiring decorating	8
Houses with smoky chimneys	3
Houses with defective and dangerous chimney stacks	6
Houses with disused well under floor of scullery	3
Houses with defective and dangerous fireplaces	5
Houses with defective and dangerous staircases	14
Houses with defective sink waste pipes	23

Houses with defective and foul slopstones	17
Houses requiring slopstones	1
Defective yard surfaces	5
Defective drains	2
Defective and foul gullies	6
Choked drains	19
Defective areas around gullies	8
Defective condition of privy middens	8
Defective closets, ashpits and ashplaces	7
Defective condition of W.C. flushing cisterns	5
Defective condition of W.C. flush pipes	1
Absence of light and ventilation to internal W.C.	1
Absence of water supply to W.C.'s	3
Absence of water supply for domestic purposes	3
Insufficiency of closet accommodation	31
Insufficiency of Ashbins	19
Filthy condition of dwelling-house floors	12
Filthy condition of dwelling-house yards	8
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	1
Miscellaneous	9

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

In addition to the usual routine inspections of these premises, special inspections have been made by the Medical Officer of Health and myself to ascertain how far they complied with the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. Since the coming into force of the latter named Order the cows and premises generally have certainly been kept in a cleaner condition. The importance of the personal factor in the production of a clean milk cannot be too greatly emphasised, and a great deal still remains to be done to interest milkers and others concerned in the production and distribution of this important food. Two samples of milk (one individual and one bulk) have been taken and submitted for bacteriological examination for the presence of T.B. Both samples proved to be negative.

The following summary shows the number of persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, etc.

Retail Purveyors of Milk (Ordinary	21
Retail Purveyors of Milk (Pasteurised)	1
Producers of Milk	18
Number of Visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	70
Number of Visits to Milkshops	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of the most important infectious diseases notified during the year is considerably less than that of the previous year. Each case was visited and re-visited, and the inspection of the sanitary condition and arrangements of each house carried out. Disinfection of the articles and premises by Formaldehyde followed, and where necessary the limewashing of the premises was carried out. A similar procedure is carried out with regard to cases of Tuberculosis.

Number of houses disinfected	30
Number of rooms disinfected	51
Number of articles disinfected	302
Number of notices (Informal) with respect to cleansing	15
Number of premises cleansed and limewashed after infectious disease	13

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The workshops have been regularly and systematically visited, and also the factories with respect to closet accommodation, etc. The bakehouses have been inspected regularly, any nuisances arising being promptly dealt with, the law as to limewashing, etc., being enforced in each case.

Number of workshops on register (domestic included)	13
Number of bakehouses	5
Visits to workshops and bakehouses	51
Visits to factories	8

The following defects were dealt with :—

Requiring limewashing and cleansing	13
Want of ventilation and other nuisances	1
Number of defects remedied	14
Number of letters sent out	2
Intimations (verbal)	11

Trades for which Registered Workshops (domestic included) are used :—

Boot Repairing	Wheelwright	Joinery
Horse Shoeing	Plumbing	Dressmaking

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, MEAT SHOPS, ETC.

There are two Registered Slaughter-houses in the district. Meat shops and premises where food is prepared for sale for human consumption are regularly visited, the meat shops being inspected at least once a week. All animals are inspected at the time of slaughter, and apart from an occasional pig no animals are slaughtered at premises other than the slaughter-houses. The supervision of the purveyors who sell meat in the district from vans is becoming increasingly difficult, due to the fact that their numbers have increased considerably.

Number of slaughter-houses on Register	2
Number of visits to slaughter-houses	208

The following animals were inspected as to their fitness for sale :—

	Condemned	Part only Passed	Passed, offal only condemned	Passed
Beasts	0	1	19	60
Calves	0	0	0	11
Sheep	0	0	12	73
Pigs	0	8	5	41

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Case No.	Nature of Case.	Results.
1	Owner of dwelling-houses against which Closing Orders are in force, allowing these houses to be occupied, also obstructing Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector.	Owner fined £10 and costs for both cases and tenants were ordered to quit.
2	Premises (Dwelling-houses) in such a state as to be a nuisance.	Order for abatement of nuisance made, defendant who was owner of property to pay all costs.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the closet accommodation in the district in December, 1926:—

Privy Middens	316
Privy closets attached	574
Dry Ashpits	35
Ashbins	679
Fresh Water Closets	681
Waste Water Closets	1
Pail Closets	32

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The work under these Acts is carried out by the County Constabulary, and the Superintendent for the Division has kindly supplied the necessary information as regards the number of samples taken in this area.

Milk	20

Proceedings were taken in one case, but the case was dismissed at the County Police Court, Wigan, on the 20th August, 1926. With this exception all the samples were genuine.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.
URBAN DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

SUMMARY of the particulars required by the Ministry of Health Circular 743, dated 20th December, 1926, to be included in the

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1926.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres 1906.

Population—Census, 1921: 7,851. Estimated, 1926: 8,124.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921): 1,670.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921): 1,921.

Rateable value: £23,426. Sum represented by a penny rate: £78.

Social conditions, including the chief occupations of the inhabitants: Coal mining, cotton spinning and weaving, chiefly coal mining. Inhabitants mostly of the manual working class.

The influence of any particular occupation on public health: None.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Males.	Females.
Births in 1926	164	72	92
Deaths in 1926	108	51	57

	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Rate of deaths under 1 year to 1000 Births
Mean of 5 years 1921—1925	23.7	13.5	0.41	101
1925	21.0	17.2	0.98	93
1926	21.2	13.9	1.03	121
Increase or Decrease in 1926 on—				
Five Years' Average	—2.5	+0.4	+0.62	+20
Previous Year	+0.2	—3.3	+0.05	+28

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year; and any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health: No.

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Hospital Accommodation provided or available:—

For Smallpox?—Wigan. Where situate?—Wigan.

For other Infectious Diseases?—Wigan. Where situate?—Wigan.

†Joint or otherwise?—Otherwise.

Are Patients required to Contribute towards Cost of Treatment?—No.

†If you have the joint use of Isolation Hospital belonging to some other Authority, state nature of "Agreement," or "Arrangement." Is any Retaining Fee paid?—No.

Number of Beds available for your District?—For Small-pox: No definite number. For other Infectious Diseases: No definite number.

Observations as to sufficiency or otherwise of the available accommodation: Always sufficient accommodation.

Is there any Hospital Accommodation available for?:—

Situation, and by whom provided.

(a) Tuberculosis: Provided by County Council.

(b) Maternity Cases: No.

(c) Children: No.

(d) Other: No.

Give postal address of Union Infirmary and any other Public Institution in District: None.

Have any of the following been provided in your district?—

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children: No.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (Consultation and Treatment): Under County Council.

Day Nursery: No.

School Clinic: Under County Council.

Tuberculosis Dispensary: No.

Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre: No.

Ambulance facilities:—

(a) For Infectious Cases: Sanatorium, Wigan. (Motor.)

(b) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases: Wigan Police (Motor), Wigan Coal and Iron Co. (Horse).

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health: Luther Cooke.

Salary (including Bonus) as M.O.H. at 31/12/1926: £110.

Is he a whole or part-time Officer?—Part time.

Any other public appointments held by him?—Poor Law and Vaccinator.

Sanitary Inspector(s): James Occleshaw. Salary (including Bonus) as Inspector at 31 12/1926: £130.

Is he a whole or part-time Officer?—Part-time. If not, what other appointments does he hold?—Road Surveyor.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector(s)?—No.

Any Specialized Inspector(s) (e.g., Food Inspector)?—No.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Nature of arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing: Done by District Nurse. (b) For Infectious Diseases, *e.g.*, Measles, &c.: None.

By whom provided?—Haigh and Aspull Nursing Association.

If not by Local Authority does the Local Authority assist financially —No.

Does the Local Authority contribute to any Voluntary Hospital?—No.

Is there a District Nursing Association in the District?—Yes.

How many District Nurses employed?—One.

If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare Work?—No.

If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily undertake Child Welfare Work?—No.

Does the Association undertake—(a) *Midwifery Cases?—No. (b) Monthly Nursing?—No.

(*Attendance at confinement without a Medical Practitioner.)

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants?—No.

Midwives—Is any midwife employed by or assisted by the Local Authority?—No.

Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31/12/1926?— Number on Register 4. Number actually practising: 4.

Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service?—Very satisfactory.

Legislation in force—

Specify any Local Acts: None.

General Adoptive Acts: Public Health Act Amendment Act, Parts 2, 3 and 4. Operative from 22/6/12. Part 2 15/11/26. Public Health Act, 1925. Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5. 2/8/26. With certain exceptions.

Bye-laws relating to public health: Slaughter-houses. 7th June, 1911.

Observations as to their administration: Carried out efficiently.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—

Source and quality: Bolton Corporation. Good.
Constant or intermittent: Constant.

Approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied?—Direct: 1,667. By stand pipe: None.

Possibilities of contamination?—None.

Any liability to plumbo-solvent action?—No. All tin-lined pipes.

Any insufficiency, and where?—No.

Nature of extensions (if any) during the year: None.

Rivers and Streams—

Action taken to check the pollution of streams: None.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Sewage Disposal Works, method of treatment: Sewage taken by Wigan.

What is the character of the Drainage System?—Separate systems for storm water and sewage.

Any extension or improvement in character and sufficiency during year?—None.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system?—Four houses. Hindley Mill Cottages.

Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing &c.?—Periodically attended to.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1926:—

Privy Middens:—Number of Middens 316.
Number of Closets attached to these Middens 574.
Number of Pail Closets 32.
Number of Dry Ashpits (excluding Middens) 35.
Number of Fresh Water Closets 681.
Number of Movable Ashbins for refuse 679.
Number of Waste Water Closets 1.

CONVERSIONS.

Number of Privy Closets:—

To Fresh W.C.'s, during year 1926, 38; during five years 1921—1925, 110. To Waste W.C.'s, during year 1926, none; during five years 1921—1925, none. To Pails, etc., during year 1926, one; during five years 1921—1925, none.

Number of Pail Closets:—

To Fresh W.C.'s, during year 1926, one; during five years 1921—1925, none. To Waste W.C.'s, during year 1926, none; during five years 1921—1925, none.

Number of Houses at which Movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles: During 1926, 58; during five years 1921—1926, 216.

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets?—Council assist and urge wherever possible the conversions.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion?—Yes.

If so, how much —Cost of drainage to main sewer.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property?—Fresh W.C.'s.

Scavenging—

Character and efficiency of the arrangements for Scavenging and Removal and Disposal of House Refuse for whole of district?—Removal by carts and buried. Work carried out efficiently.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses)—Sanitary Authority.

Are motor vehicles used?—No.

If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night? —Day.

How is the Refuse disposed of?—Buried.

Has a Destructor been provided? –No.

Sanitary Inspections during 1926:—

Number of premises visited 242.

Defects or nuisances — Number discovered 565. Number abated 422.

Number of Notices served?—Informal 171. Statutory 54.

Legal proceedings?—Number 2. Result satisfactory.

Smoke Nuisance—

Any special action taken with regard to smoke abatement? —No.

Number of Observations: None. Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result: None.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—5 minutes.

Offensive Trades—

Number: None.

Action taken or needed?—None.

Workshops and Workplaces—

What is their condition?—Good.

Common Lodging-houses—

Number: None.

Houses let in Lodgings—

Action taken or needed: None.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.—

Action taken or needed: None.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.—

Any need for Regulations?—None.

Schools—

Sanitary condition: Good. Water Supply, &c.: Good.

Canal Boats—

Number Inspected: None. Number of Infringements of Acts: None.

4.—HOUSING.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Number of new houses erected during the year 1926:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) 2

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—

(i) By the Local Authority .....None

(ii) By other bodies or persons .....None

Number of houses in course of erection under Council's building scheme .....None

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation:—

Have any advances been made during 1926—

(a) By loans?—None.

(b) By subsidy?—None.

Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection—(1) Total Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 207

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....None

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 1

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3)) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 206

Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 120

Action under Statutory Powers:—

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners: None. (b) By Local Authority in default of owners: None.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close None

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 54

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners: 43. (b) By Local Authority in default of owners: 8.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit .....None

*Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....None

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....None

D.—Number of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc. .....None

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

General Housing Conditions in the Area:—

General Housing Conditions: Fairly good.

Extent of shortage or excess of houses: No shortage. Less than five persons per house.

Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage: None. Industrial outlook not good. Mines becoming exhausted.

Overcrowding (if any):—

Extent and causes: Negligible.

Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding: None required.

Unhealthy Areas:—

Action taken (if any) or contemplated *re* unhealthy areas: None.

Local Authority's Housing Scheme:—

Give brief particulars of any scheme now in hand or contemplated: None.

5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.—Action taken with regard to—

The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926: Dairies and cowsheds inspected frequently.

Number of cases under 1915 Act referred to County Public Health Department: One.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923—

Number of Dealers' licences issued during 1926 in respect of: "Certified" Milk: None. "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" Milk: None. "Grade A" Milk: None.

Number of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk: Pasteurising Plants: None. Retail Distributors: One.

Types of apparatus licensed for the pasteurisation of milk: None in district.

Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk, with reasons for the refusal or revocation: None.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected?—Yes. What is their condition?—Fairly good.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow?—(a) Where cows are habitually grazed: 600 cubic feet. (b) Where cows are not habitually grazed: 800 cubic feet.

Cowkeepers.—Number of Cowkeepers: 18. Number on Register: 18. Number of Inspections during year: 70.

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).—

Number of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors (other than Cowkeepers): 8. Number on Register: 8.

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? Give particulars: None.

Action taken by Local Authority as to—(i) Tuberculous Milk: None. Number of Samples submitted for bacteriological test?—Result.—Positive none. Negative 2. (ii) Tuberculous Cattle: None.

(b) Meat, etc.—Observations on—

(1) Action taken with regard to meat and other food, including inspection of slaughterhouses, meat, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared: Shops, stalls, etc., inspected every week.

(3) Has a public slaughter-house been provided?—No.

Private slaughter-houses—

Number registered: 2. Number licensed: None.

Bakehouses: Number 5. Condition good.

Amount of food condemned or surrendered during 1926 as unfit for human consumption:—

Tuberculous carcases and parts: 7 parts, about 140 lbs.

Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than above): 185 lbs.

Other foodstuffs: None.

Number of Legal Proceedings and result: None.

Food poisoning? Action taken (if any): None.

(c) Action taken (if any) by Local Authority in respect of—

(i) Sale of Food and Drugs Acts: None.

(ii) Milk and Cream Regulations: None.

(iii) Condensed and Dried Milk Regulations: None.

6.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The prevalence of infectious disease was moderate, 46 cases of Chicken-pox were reported, most of them occurring in New Springs district. The 17 cases of Scarlet Fever notified were mild and scattered over the district, and could not be traced to any particular school.

Diphtheria anti-toxin.—Notes on the supply and prompt use: Sufficient.

Is a supply kept within the District?—Yes.

If so, where?—Council Offices.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Any special occurrence?—None.

Scarlet Fever.—Discovery of "return" cases: None.

Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, and Trench Fever.—Experience in regard to these diseases: Nothing unusual.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.—Arrangements with the Laboratory at Wigan Infirmary.

Number of specimens examined in 1926: Blood 3. Sputum 3. Throat Swabs 28.

Others (state nature): Milk 2.

Action taken in regard to (a) Contacts, (b) Return cases, (c) Carrier cases: None.

Has any use been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases?—No.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.—Number of vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health: (a) primary 62. (b) Re-vaccinations 17.

If any of the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district, state for what period (see Table on page 11):—Chicken-pox: 3/8/26 to 31/12/26.

Number of times School Closure adopted during 1926: None.

Number of Reports made during 1926 under Section 14 (5) Sanitary Officers Order, 1926*:—One.

Subjects of Reports: Insanitary Property, April, 1926.

*Section 14 (5) requires copies of these Reports to be forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Influenza.—Observations on any special inquiries undertaken in connection with epidemics: None.

Other diseases which have received special attention, e.g., locally contracted anthrax, or rabies?—None.

Disinfection.—Number of Houses disinfected during 1926: 30. Method (state disinfectant used): Formalin Vapour.

Are houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis: Yes. (b) Measles: No.

†Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, etc. (steam or otherwise): Available at Wigan Sanatorium.

Number of Articles disinfected: 302.

Where is Apparatus situated?—Wigan Sanatorium.

†If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, etc., of Patients not removed to the Hospital?—Yes.

Any arrangement for bathing verminous, etc., persons?—No.

In how many instances has disinfestation been carried out?—None.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1925.

Disease	Total Cases at all Ages	Cases Notified Years: Under 1	1–2	2–3	3–4	4–5	5–10	10–15	15–20	20–35	35–45	45–65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Hospital: Total Cases removed to Hospital	Hospital: Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
Scarlet Fever	17	—	1	—	2	2	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria including Membranous Croup...	4	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia / Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	44	7	1	3	5	4	9	1	2	1	1	4	6	14	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	2	3	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	8	—	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	5	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Chicken-pox	46	—	7	3	1	5	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Totals	136	8	10	9	9	13	50	3	2	11	6	6	9	28	4	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths (The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar General.)			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		M.	F	M.	F.
Years								
1—5			2	1			2	
5—10			1					
10—15								
15—20					1			
20—25	1			1		1		
25—35		2			1	2		
35—45								
45—55					1			
55—65		1				1		
65 and upwards					1			
	1	3	3	2	4	4	2	
Totals	4		5		8		2	

†What is the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—Nil. All deaths have been notified

In your opinion, is the notification of tuberculosis in your district efficient?—Yes.

Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify?—No.

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district?—No.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade—

Under Article 3: None.

Under Article 5: None.

Under Article 6: None.

Under Article 7: None.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.

Any action taken under Section 62: None.

If so, number of applications for Order for compulsory removal to hospital: None.

Number of cases in which Orders were granted: None.

Any action taken under Section 67—Lectures, etc., on questions of health or disease?—None.

*Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Number Notified	Cases Treated At Home	In Hospital	Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
1	at home	—	1	—	—	—

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1926.—Conversion of privies to W.C.'s. Paving of back yards. Greater cleansing and repairs to property.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.—Conversions of privies to W.C.'s. More frequent decorating and repairing to property.

Signed,

L. COOKE,

Medical Officer of Health.